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Law Offices of

**CHAPMAN AND CUTLER LLP**  
**Intellectual Property Department**

111 West Monroe Street, Chicago, Illinois 60603

Telephone 1•312•845•3000 FAX 1•312• 701•2361

Direct Dial 1•312•845•3919 Direct Fax: 1•312•803•5299

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Date: Tuesday, January 31, 2006To: Examiner: Nathaniel CHUKWURAH Group Art Unit: 3721Firm/Company: United States Patent and Trademark OfficeFax Number: 571-273-8300From: Robert J. Schneider, Reg. No. 27,383 Matter Number: 1715861Serial No. U.S. Pat. App. Ser. No. 10/500,808 Extension: 3919

Comments:

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION.**

Robert J. Schneider

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U.S. Pat. App. Ser. No. 10/500,808  
Attorney Docket No. 1715861

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE PATENT APPLICATION OF:

KUNIO ISHIZAKI

INTERNATIONAL APP. NO. PCT/JP03/00202

U.S. SERIAL No.: 10/500,808

FILING DATE: JULY 7, 2004

FOR: STAPLER

EXAMINER: NATHANIEL C. CHUKWURAH

GROUP ART UNIT: 3721

CONFIRMATION No.: 6995

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Greetings:

The following is filed in timely response to the final Office Action mailed on November 1, 2005, wherein the Examiner:

1. Rejected Claims 1-3 and 6 under Section 103(a), as unpatentable over Akizawa, U.S. Patent No. 5,009,355, in view of Scheuten, U.S. Patent No. 5,385, 287.

3. Found Claims 4-5 and 7-12 allowable if rewritten to include all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following amendments and remarks are submitted in response.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

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